

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01689 141541Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 OMB-01
DHA-02 /073 W
-----141917Z 024914 /53

R 141502Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2186
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 1689

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR PINT SY
SUBJECT: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR MARCH 11-12

1. EDITORIAL IS TISHRIIN MARCH 11 NOTED THAT EXPRESSED
DESIRE OF USG TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF A JUST PEACE
SETTLEMENT HAD BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY "U.S. DECISIONS RE KFIR
SALES, DRILLING IN GULF OF SUEZ, AND CANCELLATION OF
CONCUSSION BOMB SALE, ACTIONS WHICH WERE MET WITH SATIS-
FACTION ON THE ARAB SIDE." EDITORIAL STATED ARABS "USED
TO LOOK WITH SUSPICION AT U.S. POLICY," BUT IT CONTINUED
"ARABS OPEN TO ALL SIDES AND READY COOPERATE
WITH EVERY EFFORT AIMED AT MOVING PEACE EFFORTS (FORWARD)
INCLUDING AMERICAN ONES." ARABS WISHED ENCOURAGE NEW
ADMINISTRATION "TO UNDERSTAND RIGHTS OF THE ARABS AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAMASC 01689 141541Z

TO ABANDON BLIND SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S POLICIES AND ITS
REGIONAL AMBITIONS." ARABS DID NOT OPPOSE USA BUT
OPPOSED ANY POLICY HARMING THEIR INTERESTS AND RIGHTS
REGARDLESS OF SOURCE. ARABS SAID OTO HAVE GIVEN U.S.
POLICY CHANCE NOT AVAILABLE FORMERLY. "CHANCE IS STILL
THERE. IF SOME STATEMENTS DEMANDING ATTENTION HAVE BEEN
ISSUED DURING RABIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND IF NEW CONCEPTS

NOT FAMILIAR IN PAST HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD, SUCH AS SOVEREIGN BORDERS AND SECURITY BORDERS, IT WOULD BE TOO EARLY TO CLAIM THAT PICTURE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S NEW IDEAS FOR COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION IT TALKING ABOUT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED." EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT ARAB AND SYRIAN POSITIONS PRECLUDED ANY SETTLEMENT WHICH DID NOT INCLUDE TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND RESTORATION PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.

2. ARTICLE ALSO APPEARED IN TISHRIIN MARCH 12 EXPRESSING GUARDED ENCOURAGEMENT AT RECENT U.S. POLICY TOWARDS ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE. ARTICLE STATED "ECHOES OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS REGARDING THE ME AMERICAN SETTLEMENT PLAN HAVE STARTED REVERBERATING STRONGLY IN SOME ARAB CAPITALS. THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT DECLARED THAT THERE WAS DISTINCTION BETWEEN WHAT HE CALLED ISRAEL'S ACTUAL LEGAL BORDERS AND HER DEFENSE BORDERS, AND HE SUGGESTED VARIOUS MEANS TO HELP ISRAEL DEFEND HER SO-CALLED LEGAL BORDERS." AFTER DESCRIBING SEVERAL FEATURES OF PROPOSALS ARTICLE STATED THAT EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT STUDYING CARTER'S STATEMENTS WITH GREAT INTEREST AND THAT LEBANESE HAD REQUESTED FULL TEXT OF STATEMENTS FROM ITS AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON. ARTICLE ALSO NOTED RABIN STATED, "IT TIME TO EXPLORE PROSPECTS FOR REACHING PEACE IN ME THROUGH PURPOSEFUL NEGOTIATIONS." ARTICLE ASSERTED THAT "RABIN STUCK TO USUAL ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE AND THAT THIS QUESTION WILL BE DECIDED BY HIS GOVERNMENT ALONE AND HE WILL ALLOW NO ONE TAKE DECISION IN THIPS REGARD WITHOUT CONSENT OF ISRAELI GOVERNMENT." ARTICLE FURTHER NOTED THAT ISRAELI NEWSPSPERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DAMASC 01689 141541Z

COMPARED CARTER'S STATEMENT WITH ROGER'S PLAN AND DECLARATION OF WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN THAT PRESIDENT CARTER NOT TRYING TO IMPOSE SOLUTION.

3. MARCH 12 FRONT PAGE DEVOTED TO COMMEMORATING ASAD'S SIXTH ANNIVERSARY AS SYRIA'S PRESIDENT. LAUDATORY HEADLINES SUCH AS, "HISTORY WILL PLACE PRESIDENT ASAD AMONG THE SAVIORS", ACCOMPANIED BY LARGE PHOTOS OF PRESIDENT INCLUDING FULL COLOR PICTURE IN THAWRA, MARKED CONTINUING TREND TOWARD PROMOTING "PERSONALITY CULT" AROUND ASAD. MURPHY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC01689
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770087-0452
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770364/aaaacdwwg.tcl
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c15f7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3121452
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR MARCH 11-12
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c15f7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009